

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3914
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2000
AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a): the policy of the Government to ensure easy availability of quality drugs at cheaper rates in the country;
- (b): the measures being taken by the Government to check the heavy profit being earned by drugs manufacturing companies by producing spurious drugs;
- (c): whether there is any proposal to bring the drugs under the purview of the Patent Law;
- (d): if so, the details thereof along with its effect on the prices of drugs;
- (e): whether the Government are keeping a close watch on the pharmaceutical companies to manufacture life saving and other drugs indigenously and to maintain their quality; and
- (f): if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

- (a): The Drug Policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices.
- (b),(e) and (f): Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the Rules thereunder, the enforcement of quality control of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals is regulated by the respective States.
- (c) and (d): Drugs stand covered by the Patents Act, 1970.